

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1 1. A method for creating a user-interface independently of an application with which the  
2 user interface interacts, the application including a plurality of components and at least one  
3 component containing a property, each property being identified with an identifier, the method  
4 comprising:

5 inserting at least one element into the user-interface; and

6 associating at least one property path with one inserted element, the property path  
7 including a concatenation of a plurality of identifiers, the concatenation of identifiers defining a  
8 path through the components of the application to a property at the end of the concatenation.

9 2. The method of claim 1 further comprising:

10 determining a list of property paths associated with the application; and

11 selecting the property path from the list to associate with the one inserted element of the  
12 user-interface from the list of property paths.

13 3. The method of claim 2 wherein the step of determining further comprises receiving a  
14 property path description file associated with the application, the property path description file  
15 including a plurality of identifiers associated with the application and a relationship between the  
16 plurality of identifiers.

17 4. The method of claim 2 wherein the step of determining further comprises

18 executing the application; and

interacting with the executing application to determine a plurality of identifiers  
associated with the application and a relationship between the plurality of identifiers.

5. The method of claim 1 further comprising transmitting a request to register for a property  
change message corresponding to the property path associated with the element of the user-  
interface.

6. The method of claim 1 wherein the step of inserting comprises:

providing at least one predefined element; and

enabling selection from the at least one predefined element to insert the selected  
predefined element into the user-interface.

7. The method of claim 6 wherein the predefined element comprises one of an image type  
user-interface element, an iterator type user-interface element, a text type user-interface element,  
a hidden type user-interface element, a value type user-interface element, a slider type user-  
interface element, a treeview type user-interface element, a button type user-interface element, an  
iframe type user-interface element, a tab type user-interface element, a flipflop type user-interface  
element, a deck type user-interface element, a dropdown type user-interface element, a radio type  
user-interface element, and a script type user-interface element.

1 8. A system for creating a user-interface independently of an application with which the user  
2 interface interacts, the application including a plurality of components and at least one  
3 component containing a property, each property being identified with an identifier, the system  
4 comprising:

5 a property connector module inserting at least one element into the user-interface, and  
6 associating at least one property path with one inserted element, the property path including a  
7 concatenation of a plurality of identifiers, the concatenation of identifiers defining a path through  
8 the components of the application to a property at the end of the concatenation.

1 9. The system of claim 8 wherein the property connector module is further configured to  
2 determine a list of property paths associated with the application, and to select the property path  
3 from the list to associate with the one inserted element of the user-interface from the list of  
4 property paths.

1 10. The system of claim 8 wherein the property connector module is further configured to  
2 receive a property path description file associated with the application, the property path  
3 description file including a plurality of identifiers associated with the application and a  
4 relationship between the plurality of identifiers.

1 11. The system of claim 8 wherein the property connector module is further configured to  
2 execute the application, and to interact with the executing application to determine a plurality of  
3 identifiers associated with the application and a relationship between the plurality of identifiers.

1 12. The system of claim 8 wherein the property connector module is further configured to  
2 transmit a request to register for a property change message corresponding to the property path  
3 associated with the element of the user-interface.

1 13. The system of claim 8 wherein the property connector module is further configured to  
2 provide at least one predefined element, and to enable selection from the at least one predefined  
3 element to insert the selected predefined element into the user-interface.

1 14. The system of claim 13 wherein the predefined element comprises one of an image type  
2 user-interface element, an iterator type user-interface element, a text type user-interface element,  
3 a hidden type user-interface element, a value type user-interface element, a slider type user-  
4 interface element, a treeview type user-interface element, a button type user-interface element, an  
5 iframe type user-interface element, a tab type user-interface element, a flipflop type user-interface  
6 element, a deck type user-interface element, a dropdown type user-interface element, a radio type  
7 user-interface element, and a script type user-interface element.

1 15. The system of claim 8 further comprising:

2 a client node including:

3 the user interface having one or more elements; and

4 a client portion of the property connector module.

1 16. The system of claim 8 further comprising:

2 a server node including:

3 the application; and

4 a server portion of the property connector module.

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